

IN THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheets of drawings include changes to Figs. 1 and 2. These sheets, which include Figs. 1 and 2, replace the original sheets including Figs. 1 and 2.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-21 are presently active in this application; Claims 1, 15, 17, and 19-21 are amended by the present amendment.

In the outstanding Office Action section entitled "Important Notes & Remarks", the specification was objected to as including numerous mistakes; the Abstract was objected to as including informalities; Claims 15-20 were objected to as being improper dependent claims; Claims 15 and 17 were objected to as not being clear from the specification; Figure 1 was objected to as using a foreign language and being unclear; and Figure 2 was objected to as showing that which is old.

In response to the objection to the specification, the specification has been amended to correct several errors. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the objection to the specification be withdrawn.

In response to the objection to the Abstract, the Abstract has been amended to be in a single paragraph and be less than 150 words. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the objection to the Abstract be withdrawn.

In response to the objection to Claims 15-20 as being improper dependent claims, Claims 15, 17 and 19 have been amended to be written in independent form and to include all of the limitations of Claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the objection to the Claims 15-20 be withdrawn.

In response to the objection to Claims 15 and 17 as not being clear from in the specification, Applicants respectfully submit that the specification, at least at page 57, last paragraph, page 55, lines 12-19 and page 49, lines 2-6, support the "light detecting device". Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the objection to the Claims 15 and 17 be withdrawn.

With respect to objections to Figures 1 and 2, Figures 1 and 2 are amended to correct

the informalities. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the objection to the Figures 1 and 2 be withdrawn.

In response to the election requirement, Applicant provisionally elects with traverse the Invention A, identified in the outstanding Official Action as corresponding to Claims 1-14 and 21, classified in class 369, subclass 44.14, for further examination on the merits. Applicant reserves the right to file one or more divisional applications directed to the non-elected species.

In response to the election of species requirement, Applicant provisionally elects with traverse the Species a, identified in the outstanding Official Action as corresponding to Figure 3 and lists Claims 1-14 as reading on the elected species for further examination on the merits. Applicant reserves the right to file one or more divisional applications directed to the non-elected species.

Furthermore, while the Election Requirement asserts that the application contains claims to patentably distinct species, MPEP § 803 states the following:

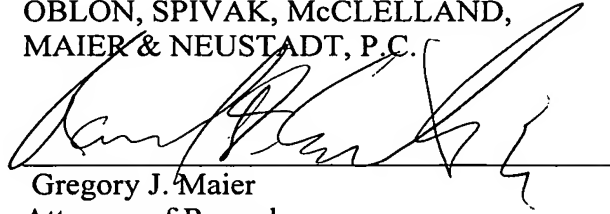
If the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to distinct or independent inventions.

Although the outstanding Official Action does not identify search classifications, it is believed that the claims of the present application would have to be searched in a handful of sub-classes. Furthermore, since electronic searching is commonly performed, a search may be made of a large number of, or theoretically all, subclasses without substantial additional effort. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully traverse the Restriction and Election Requirements on the grounds that a search and examination of the entire application would not place a *serious* burden on the Examiner, whereas it would be a serious burden on Applicant to prosecute and maintain separate applications.

Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the requirement to elect a single species be withdrawn, and that a full examination on the merits of Claims 1-21 be conducted.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Gregory J. Maier
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 25,599

Customer Number
22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 06/04)

Raymond F. Cardillo, Jr.
Registration No. 40,440

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